



# MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Protecting consumers by advancing high quality, safe medical care.

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Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California | Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency | Department of Consumer Affairs

## MIDWIFERY ADVISORY COUNCIL WebEx Meeting Thursday, December 9, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

**Due to timing for invited guests to provide their presentations, the agenda items below are listed in the order they were presented.**

### **Members Present:**

Diane Holzer, L.M., Chair  
Claudia Breglia, L.M., Vice Chair  
Donyale Abe  
Tesa Kurin, L.M.  
Monique Webster

### **Members Absent:**

### **Staff Present:**

Aaron Bone, Chief of Legislation and Public Affairs  
Sean Eichelkraut, Information Technology Manager I  
Tonya Morairty, Associate Governmental Program Analyst  
Marina O'Connor, Chief of Licensing  
Lisa Toof, Staff Services Manager I  
Reji Varghese, Deputy Director  
Kerrie Webb, Staff Counsel

### **Agenda Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum**

Ms. Holzer called the meeting of the Midwifery Advisory Council (MAC) of the Medical Board of California (Board) to order on Thursday, December 9, 2021, at 1:03 p.m. A quorum was present and due notice was provided to all interested parties.

### **Agenda Item 2 Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda**

Ms. Rosanna Davis stated she would like to see the MAC meetings be suspended while the California Association of Licensed Midwives (CALM) works on developing a Midwifery Board.

**Agenda Item 3      Approval of Minutes from the August 12, 2021 Midwifery Advisory Council Meeting**

Ms. Holzer asked if anyone in attendance had corrections to the August 12, 2021, meeting minutes.

No corrections were requested.

***Ms. Abe made a motion to approve the August 12, 2021 meeting minutes; s/Ms. Breglia. Motion carried. 4-0, Ms. Webster abstained.***

**Agenda Item 4      Report from the Midwifery Advisory Chair**

Ms. Holzer introduced and welcomed Ms. Webster as the newest member of the MAC. Ms. Holzer indicated this will be the second time Ms. Webster will serve as a MAC member.

Ms. Holzer thanked Dr. Adams for her time on the MAC and stated she was grateful for Dr. Adams' service as a MAC member.

Ms. Holzer stated her second and final term with the MAC will end in June 2022. Ms. Holzer indicated Ms. Abe will also term out of her first term on the MAC in June 2022.

Ms. Holzer stated there were many things the MAC has accomplished while she was a member, such as regulatory changes on the LMAR being approved, sending out a letter to the Birth Certificate and Social Security offices, and holding an interested parties meeting regarding regulations.

Ms. Holzer thanked the MAC.

**Agenda Item 5      Establishing Goals for the Midwifery Advisory Council**

Ms. Abe stated she would like to add working on the Medical Board (MBC) website listing of midwifery schools. Ms. Abe stated she would like to see more information on how midwifery schools can become approved to be listed on the MBC website.

Ms. Breglia stated she would like to work with Ms. Abe on this goal.

**Agenda Item 6      Report from the Task Force and Possible Action on Medi-Cal Related Issues**

Ms. Kurin stated her birth center is involved in and working on an initiative regarding Medicaid. There will be a stakeholders' meeting to collaborate and create goals with a nationwide group every three months.

Ms. Holzer questioned if the MAC could be of help.

Ms. Kurin stated the process is just getting started. The meeting will focus on the credential process.

Ms. Rosanna Davis stated CALM is also participating in the initiative.

Ms. Kurin stated she will continue to update the MAC regarding this topic.

**Agenda Item 7 Update on Proposed Regulatory Language for the Licensed Midwife Annual Report**

Ms. O'Connor stated the regulation packet is in the final stages at MBC. Once it is complete it will move on to Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) for approval.

Ms. Abe questioned if the draft is on the MBC website.

Ms. O'Connor stated it will be posted after DCA approval.

**Agenda Item 8 Update on Midwifery Related Legislation and Sunset Review Process**

Mr. Bone reported that Senate Bill (SB) 806, the Board's sunset bill, was signed into law. Mr. Bone stated SB 806 does allow an end to paper license and renewals and includes an increase in midwifery fees. Mr. Bone also stated all licensed midwives must have an email listed with MBC by July 1, 2022.

Mr. Bone indicated SB 806 also indicated quality of care complaints must be reviewed by individuals trained in midwifery.

Mr. Bone noted MBC has re-affirmed its agreement for the development of a Midwifery Board.

**Agenda Item 9 Program Update**

Ms. Morairty referred Council members to the Licensing Statistics, stating that in the 1st quarter of the fiscal year (FY) 2021/2022, the Board received five new applications, issued 11 new licenses, and renewed 42 licenses.

Ms. Morairty reported on the Transfer of Planned Out-of-Hospital Delivery forms for the 1st quarter of FY 2021/2022, indicating that the Board received 51 Transfer of Planned Out-of-Hospital Delivery to Hospital Reporting forms for licensed midwives.

Ms. Morairty reported the enforcement statistics for licensed midwives, stating that in the 1st quarter of FY 2021/2022, the Board received two complaints and referred two for investigation.

The Board received one complaint in the 1st quarter of FY 2021/2022 for unlicensed midwives and there were none referred for investigation.

**Agenda Item 10 Discussion on Licensed Midwife Annual Report Compliance**

Ms. Holzer mentioned the number of midwives that have not completed the LMAR. Ms. Holzer asked if the MAC had any ideas on how to increase timely participation in the LMAR.

Ms. Breglia stated how important the LMAR is and how it is beneficial to the advancement of midwifery in California.

Ms. Webb stated that MBC does send out reminder letters to all licensed midwives each year. Ms. Webb also mentioned that MBC places a hold on licensure renewal if a midwife has not completed the LMAR yearly.

Ms. Holzer stated the MAC will add this topic to the next MAC meeting so more discussion and action can take place.

Ms. Breglia asked if the MAC could add language to the reminder letter sent out by MBC to help encourage midwives to complete the LMAR on a timely basis.

Ms. Kurin asked if she recalled correctly that a prior MAC member was working on a worksheet to help complete the LMAR each year.

Mr. Eichelkraut stated that in previous years the LMAR was completed in paper format. Mr. Eichelkraut stated the newer version is computerized and all entries must be made electronically.

Ms. Lowe stated that the LMAR was recently revised for easier completion. Ms. Lowe stated there were several meetings regarding the LMAR system update prior to the updates being made and the system created was based on feedback that was received by MBC regarding what specific data elements should be included and the current laws. Ms. Lowe stated MBC revitalized and revamped the LMAR to be more user friendly.

Ms. Lowe indicated there was discussion in the past by MAC members on creating a worksheet that would be helpful for midwives to enter the LMAR information each year. Ms. Lowe stated that a prior MAC member was going to take on this task. However, at this time a worksheet has not yet been completed by the MAC.

Ms. Lowe stated that the newer LMAR system has been in place for a few years now and MBC has received very little calls by midwives indicating they are having issues with entering data.

Ms. Breglia stated she is happy with the advancements that have been made to the LMAR system and the improvements she has seen in recent years. Ms. Breglia stated once you are familiar with the new system it is much easier to complete than it had been in the past. Ms. Breglia did indicate she thought it would be helpful for a worksheet to be created.

Ms. Kurin stated she would like to work on preparing a worksheet for midwives to use while collecting data to help with completing the LMAR each year.

Ms. O'Connor stated it may be helpful for MBC to develop a walkthrough to help midwives enter the LMAR data.

Ms. Breglia stated she will bring suggested language to add to the MBC LMAR reminder letter to the next MAC meeting.

Ms. Rosanna Davis made a public comment and thanked MBC for their work on the LMAR revision and stated that she agreed a worksheet, new language on the MBC reminder letter and a tutorial on how to complete the LMAR would be a good idea.

#### **Agenda Item 11 Discussion on Training for MAC Members**

Ms. Abe stated she believes the limits on training for MAC members was clarified at one of the prior MAC meetings. Ms. Abe stated a member of the public contacted her and stated mentoring for incoming MAC members would be nice.

Ms. Holzer stated Ms. Webb has done a presentation at a prior MAC meeting on the Bagley Keene open meeting act.

Ms. Abe indicated she did receive some training when she first became a MAC member, however she would like more in depth training on MAC items when incoming.

Ms. Holzer asked that all new incoming MAC members be sent the presentation made by Ms. Webb.

Ms. Abe stated she believes the training questions she had have been resolved.

### **Agenda Item 12 Presentation by California Department of Public Health regarding Newborn Screening Requirements and Compliance**

A presentation was given by Mr. Domingo and Ms. Bishop from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) regarding newborn screening requirements.

Mr. Domingo stated the importance of completing newborn screening.

Ms. Bishop stated the program looks forward to developing a relationship with midwives.

Ms. Bishop went over several items regarding newborn screening, including the state regulations and policies, the history of the program, conditions that are screened and testing forms.

Ms. Bishop indicated the importance of newborn screening and stated that all midwives should comply with the newborn screening requirements. Ms. Bishop stated newborn screening is in place to give every child the best start in life.

### **Agenda Item 13 Discussion and Possible Action on 2022 Midwifery Advisory Council Meeting Dates**

After discussion by the MAC, the proposed dates for the 2022 MAC meetings will be March 3, 2022, August 11, 2022, and December 8, 2022.

***Ms. Holzer made a motion to approve the 2022 MAC meeting dates; s/Ms. Webster. Motion carried. 5-0***

### **Agenda Item 14 Future Agenda Items**

Ms. Holzer recommended the following agenda items for the next board meeting:

- Establishing goals for the MAC;
- Update on midwifery related legislation and sunset review;
- Report from the MAC Chair;
- Update on the Midwifery Program;
- Update on proposed regulatory language for the Licensed Midwife Annual Report (LMAR);
- Discussion and possible action on suspension of further MAC meetings;
- Approval of minutes from the December 9, 2021 MAC meeting;
- Selection of three new MAC members, one licensed midwife, one public member and one licensed physician;
- Discussion and possible action on LMAR reminder letter and worksheet;
- Discussion and possible action on midwifery schools and information on the Board's website;
- Report from the Task Force and possible action regarding Medi-Cal related issues.

**Agenda Item 15    Adjournment**

Ms. Holzer adjourned the meeting at 3:11 p.m.